

Remarks

The present communication amends claim 14. The amendments broaden the scope of shielding covered by the claim. For the reasons stated below and in the accompanying 1.132 declaration, claim 14 is now allowable.

Claim Rejections 35 USC §103

The Examiner rejects pending claim 14 as unpatentable over Arroyo 4,807,962 in further view of Tissier 5,134,488. Applicant respectfully asserts claim 14 is patentable over these references.

The lack of obviousness is set forth and supported by the enclosed declaration under 1.132. The declaration makes it clear that nowhere in Arroyo or Tessier is there any teaching that the core in Arroyo has any ability to control electrical such as near end cross-talk between twisted pairs (see Dec. ¶ 9). The Arroyo patent utilizes an internal member to isolate optical fibers from compressive forces such as stress (see Dec. ¶ 9). Fiber optic cables do not suffer from cross talk infirmities of twisted pairs (see Dec. ¶ 10). There is nothing in Tessier to indicate that the internal member of Arroyo would have any benefit towards twisted pairs (see Dec. ¶ 12). In fact, the industry believed that using overall bound wraps and internal stress relief chord members were satisfactory. (see Dec. ¶ 12). Indeed, the internal core of Arroyo would have been considered to have been too cumbersome to provide strength to a twisted pair cable and thus would not have been used to do so. (See Dec. ¶ 12).

For the above reasons, the obviousness rejection to claim 14 should be withdrawn. The remaining claims 15, 16 and 17 depend from claim 14 and are thus themselves allowable.

Double Patenting Rejection

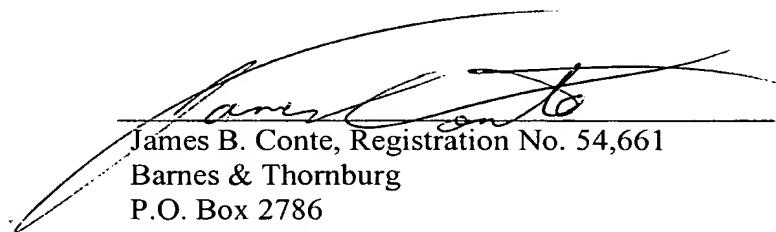
Applicant disagrees as to the propriety of the double patenting rejection. The present

claims do not recite that the open space between the prongs is limited to a "groove" or the "prongs" have a particular shape. Thus, there is no double patenting. Reconsideration of the requirement is therefore requested.

Conclusion

The pending claims are now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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